

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 05996 082129Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 CIAE-00
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4039
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UNCLAS OTTAWA 05996

DEPT FOR OES/NET/IM/HOYLE; ERDA FOR SIEVERING
DEPT PLEASE PASS NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR LAFLEUR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, CA
SUBJECT: STATEMENT BY ROSS CAMPBELL, ATOMIC ENERGY OF
CANADA LTD.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE MESSAGE ISSUED BY ROSS CAMPBELL,
CHAIRMAN OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LIMITED ON JULY 7,
1977:

BEGIN TEXT. YOU WILL HAVE ALREADY LEARNED THROUGH THE
STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES,
THE HON. ALASTAIR W. GILLESPIE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
TODAY WHEN TABLING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMPANY OF
THE VERY LARGE FINANCIAL LOSSES FACED BY AECL, PRINCIPALLY
IN CONNECTION WITH THE ARGENTINE CONTRACT. LOSSES OF THIS
MAGNITUDE CANNOT BUT HAVE A SERIOUS EFFECT ON OUR COM-
PANY'S OPERATIONS AND REPUTATION. DR. FOSTER FULLY AC-
CEPTS THAT, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
HE MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES
IN THE COMPANY'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE.

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THIS SITUATION HAS PROMPTED THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO
RECOMMEND THAT DR. J.S. FOSTER RELINQUISH HIS DUTIES AS
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE COMPANY. THE
RECOMMENDATION HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE MINISTER WITH
EFFECT FROM JULY 4, 1977.

IT IS NEVERTHELESS THE DESIRE OF THE MINISTER, THE BOARD

OF DIRECTORS AND MYSELF AS CHAIRMAN OF THAT BOARD TO ENSURE THAT THE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION WHICH DR. FOSTER HAS MADE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DISTINCTIVE NUCLEAR POWER SYSTEM FOR CANADA SHOULD NOT GO UNRECOGNIZED AND THAT, MORE IMPORTANTLY, HIS PRE-EMINENT KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE SHOULD NOT BE LOST TO OUR NATIONAL NUCLEAR PROGRAM.

MOST OF YOU WHO WILL READ THIS MESSAGE ARE FULLY FAMILIAR WITH THE EXCEPTIONAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL QUALITIES OF DR. FOSTER. HE HAS BEEN CONNECTED WITH CANADA'S NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAM SINCE ITS INCEPTION AND HAS INFLUENCED EVERY MAJOR DECISION IN ITS PROGRESS. HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE ENGINEERING WHICH HAS MADE THE CANDU SYSTEM SECOND TO NONE IN THE WORLD IS WELL KNOWN AND INTERNATIONALLY ACKNOWLEDGED. LESS WIDELY KNOWN, BUT OF EQUALLY GREAT SIGNIFICANCE HAS BEEN THE SENSE OF PERSONAL DEDICATION WHICH HE HAS INSPIRED FIRST IN THE DESIGN TEAM WHICH PIONEERED THE PROGRAM AND LATER IN THE CANADIAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY AS A WHOLE.

IT IS HOPED THAT MEANS CAN BE FOUND TO MAKE DR. FOSTER'S UNIQUE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE AVAILABLE TO AECL IN THE FUTURE.

A COMMITTEE OF THE AECL BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS BEEN CONSTITUTED AND DIRECTED BY THE MINISTER TO RECOMMEND CAN-

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DIDATES FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF AECL. DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD, I WILL ASSUME THE OFFICES OF PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER. IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE MINISTER THAT THE NEW APPOINTEE HAVE BUSINESS EXPERIENCE COMMENSURATE WITH THE COMMERCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES CURRENTLY BORNE BY AECL.

THE TECHNICAL SUCCESSES TO WHICH YOU HAVE ALL CONTRIBUTED MAY APPEAR TO BE ECLIPSED BY THE FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES WHICH NOW BESET THE COMPANY. YET YOU HAVE IN THE PAST FACED, AND OVERCOME, TECHNICAL PROBLEMS NO LESS DIFFICULT THAN THOSE WHICH CONFRONT US TODAY. THE CHALLENGES MAY BE DIFFERENT BUT THEY REQUIRE APPROACHES NO LESS INNOVATIVE THAN THOSE WHICH HAVE GIVEN US OUR HIGH TECHNICAL STANDING.

IT IS ON THE INDIVIDUAL LOYALTY AND DEDICATION OF EACH ONE OF YOU THAT THE SUCCESS OF AECL HAS ALWAYS RESTED. IT WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE. I ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN BRINGING OUR ORGANIZATION THROUGH THESE TRYING TIMES SO THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO MAKE OUR APPROPRIATE CONTRIBUTION TO SOLVING THE PRESSING PROBLEMS OF ENERGY

SUPPLY IN CANADA AND THE WORLD. END OF TEXT. ENDERS

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Subject: STATEMENT BY ROSS CAMPBELL, ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LTD. THE FOLLOWING IS THE MESSAGE ISSUED BY ROSS CAMPBE
TAGS: TGEN, CA, (CAMPBELL, ROSS)
To: STATE ERDA
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